

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM DENOUNCES FOREIGN (SOVIET)
INTERFERENCE IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN ARTICLE (TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH AND CREOLE) WHICH APPEARED IN THE INDEPENDENT L'EXPRESS OF 9 DECEMBER. THE ARTICLE REPORTS THE MOST DIRECT INSTANCE OF AN ACCUSATION BY P.M. RAMGOOLAM OF SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO THE MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: SSR DENOUNCES THE INTERFERENCE OF FOREIGN POWERS: THE MAJOR PART OF THE SPEECH OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE LABOR PARTY, SIR SEEWOOSAGUR RAMGOOLAM, AT THE PARTY'S MEETING IN THE RAILWAY STATION SQUARE IN BEAU BASSIN MONDAY AFTERNOON WAS CENTERED ON A DENUNCIATION OF THE FOREIGN POWERS WHO INTERFERE IN MAURITIAN AFFAIRS. HE MENTIONED NO NAME, BUT IT WAS APPARENT THAT HE MEANT THE SOVIET UNION. HIS NUMEROUS ATTACKS AGAINST THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM AND AGAINST COMMUNISM IN GENERAL, WHILE TALKING ABOUT THE MMM, LEFT NO DOUBT ABOUT THE MATTER.

3. ACCORDING TOSSR, MAURITIUS IS A BROTHER TO MANY INTERESTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL AREAS. "THEY DO NOT WANT A STRONG MAURITIUS, WHICH HAS EMERGED ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE AND WHICH IS CITED AS AN EXAMPLE, THAT IS AN EXAMPLE THAT CERTAIN COUNTRIES UNDER THEIR YOKE COULD FOLLOW. THAT IS NOT IN THEIR INTEREST AND WHAT THEY WISH TO DESTROY IS OUR IMAGE. CERTAIN OF THEM ARE VERY INTERESTED TO TURN THIS COUNTRY
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INTO ANOTHER CUBA IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. FOR THESE REASONS

AND STILL OTHERS WE NEED A STRONG GOVERNMENT WHICH CAN TAKE, WITHOUT FEAR, COURAGEOUS MEASURES TO ASSURE OUR PROSPERITY AND OUR STABILITY. A WEAK GOVERNMENT CANNOT GOVERN WITH DETERMINATION AND COURAGE," SSR DECLARED.

4. FOR SSR, THE OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES EACH REPRESENT CERTAIN INTERESTS AND CERTAIN FOREIGN AGENCIES. "THEY ARE NOT THEIR OWN MASTERS," HE SAID. TURNING TO THEM, HE REMARKED THAT THIS PARTY " IS HIDING LOTS OF THINGS. COMMUNISM IN MAURITIUS IS REPRESENTED BY THE MMM. THEY ARE DOGS WHO HAVE HAD RABIES. THEY ARE THE AGENTS OF POWERS WHO WISH TO DIVIDE AND DESTROY MAURITIUS AND INSTALL HERE A REGIME OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SLAVERY. WE ARE TOO SOPHISTICATED A SOCIETY AND THE MAURITIAN WILL NEVER ACCEPT THE INSTALLATION OF A COMMUNIST REG ME BEING ADVOCATED BY THE MMM," SSR DECLARED.

5. HE RETURNED TO THE SUBJECT OF THE MMM AND COMMUNISM WHEN, IN ANALYZING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE LABOR PARTY IN THE ECONOMIC DOMAIN, HE INSISTED ON THE PRIORITY THAT MUST BE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AND THE MARKETING OF SUGAR. "ALL OUR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STABILITY DEPEND ON THESE FACTORS AND BERENGER HAS NEVER UNDERSTOOD THAT. NEXT YEAR IT IS VERY PROBABLE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO PRODUCE 800,000 TONS OF SUGAR. ALREADY WE ARE ASSURED OF BEING ABLE TO SELL 500,000 TONS TO THE COMMON MARKET, SOMETHING THAT REPRESENTS A MINIMUM REVENUE OF RS.1.5 BILLION IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE. BERENGER COULD NOT OBTAIN A BETTER ARRANGEMENT FROM THE RUSSIANS NOT FROM ANY OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRY. DOES HE KNOW THAT EVEN FIDEL CASTRO WISHES TO GET OUT FROM UNDER THE SOVIET YOKE BUT HE CANNOT DO SO," ASKED SSR, WHO, IN PASSING, DESCRIBED THE SOVIET ECONOMY AS PRIMITIVE.

6. MR. DUVAL, ACCORDING TO SSR, DOESN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT THE PROBLEMS OF SUGAR EITHER. TALKING OF THE PMSD HE SAID, "THE MAURITIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS NOTHING SOCIAL OR DEMOCRATIC ABOUT IT. THEY ARE NOW CRYING COCK POWER. WHAT IS COCK POWER? WHAT IS COCK POWER INDEED? I MAY VERY WELL PUT THE COCK IN THE HEN COOP AND LOCK IT UP WITH THE KEY" (THE LABOR PARTY ELECTORAL EMBLEM IS THE KEY).
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7. MOREOVER, THE LABOR PARTY LEADER DENOUNCED WHAT HE CALLED THE CAMPAIGN OF FALSEHOODS AND RUMORS AGAINST THE LABOR PARTY. "A FALSEHOOD WHICH IS PROPAGATED BY THE MMM CONCERNS THE ALLEGED ALLIANCE BETWEEN LABOR AND THE PMSD. I DON'T KNOW WHY BERENGER DOES NOT KEEP TO HIS OWN BUSINESS. EITHER HE HAS NO VALID ARGUMENTS OR HIS NEWSPAPER HAS NOTHING TO PUBLISH. I CAN GIVE YOU THE ASSURANCE THAT THIS PARTY

HAS NO ARRANGEMENT WITH ANYONE", SSR SAID.

8. HE ANNOUNCED THE FORTHCOMING PUBLICATION OF THE MANIFESTO
OF THE PARTY WHICH WILL ADVOCATE MEASURES TO MAKE MAURITIUS
A MORE PROSPEROUS COUNTRY. "OUR GREATEST CONCERN IS
THE PROTECTION AND BLOSSOMING OF THE MAURITIAN FAMILY AND ONE
OF THE GREATEST NECESSITIES FOR THE REALIZATION OF OUR PROGRAM
IS POLITICAL STABILITY WHICH ONLY THE LABOR PARTY CAN INSURE.
FOR THAT WE MUST HAVE A STRONG GOVERNMENT," HE UNDERLINED.
END TEXT
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